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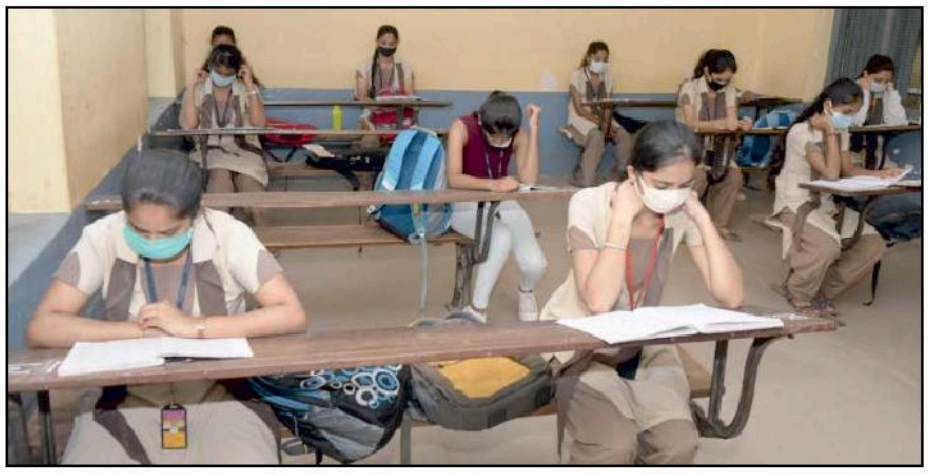
Delayed II PU English exam conducted safely in city

Most parents wait outside exam centres to take back their children



Mysuru, June 18 (MTY&BCT)- The second year Pre-University Course (PUC) English paper exam was held this morning in Mysuru as across the State with social distancing and other safety norms, nearly three months after being postponed in March due to the COVID lockdown.

Over 31,542 students registered for the examination at over 50 centres across Mysuru district. The city had 26 centres. Of them, 31,129 appeared today. Over 504 students from Mysuru appeared for examinations at other centres in the State and over 464 students from other centres had opted to take up the examination in Mysuru.

Only the English paper was left out as the examination scheduled on Mar. 23 could not be conducted in view of the Coronavirus lockdown. The Department of Pre-University Education had issued the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for conducting the examination including sanitising the exam halls, the length of the benches, the number of students to be present in each room, thermal screening and usage of sanitisers and masks. Each room was divided into two and in each division, 12 students were seated.

In a normal situation, over 30 students used to sit in one room. The number of invigilators per room too was increased to two (one per section of 12 students). In Mysuru (from containment zones in Nanjangud) over 11 students were made to write the exam in separate rooms as they showed symptoms of fever and cold. They were later sent along with their parents.

Thermal scanners, demarcated boxes

Each exam centre was equipped with thermal scanners, demarcated boxes to maintain social distance and hand-sanitisers. It was mandatory for students and staff to wear a face mask during the examination. Invigilators were also supplied with disposable hand-gloves for extra protection. At some centres, there was a shortage of hand-gloves and sanitisers but were purchased later when teachers complained to the institution Principals.

Parents wait outside

It was compulsory for every student to undergo thermal check and sanitise their hands before entering the exam hall. All students had reached the centres an hour before the commencement of the examinations.

Many parents waited outside their exam centres to take back their children after the exams. "We have no other go but to wait for our children as the situation is scary. We don't want our kids to loiter around after the exam," said Sulakshana Jayaram who was waiting outside an exam centre in Jayalakshmipuram.

Another parent Panduranga Shetty was glad that the examinations are finally over. "It is good that the Government postponed the exam. COVID cases are rising every day and we are really scared. Also, it was unfair to declare all the students pass in the English paper as many of the students have put in real effort to clear the exam with flying colours," he said.

At Maharani's: PU College exam centre there was a verbal altercation between parents, invigilation supervisors and teachers as the parents alleged that mandatory safety measures were not followed at the centre. Even as the heated exchange took place, Deputy Director of PU Education (DDPUE) Geetha arrived at the spot and assured agitated parents that she will look into the issue.

(See EXAM on page 2)

Awareness Jatha marks Mask Day

Mysureans apprised on importance of using face covers

Mysuru, June 18 (PM& BNR)- As directed by the State Government to observe June 18 as Mask Day in order to create awareness among the public on the importance of using face masks, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) and various Departments including Health, KSRTC, Library and Police, took out Jatha at several locations of the city, keeping in mind the COVID guidelines with minimum attendance.

Mysuru City Corporation: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Abhiram G. Sankar flagged off the Jatha organised by the MCC at Agrahara Circle this morning.

It was attended by nearly 40 members including MCC officials and Pourakarmikas, officials from Red Cross institution. They took out jatha covering areas around Agrahara Circle holding placards with a message on importance of wearing masks.

(See JATHA on page 2)

STAR PUNCH By Satish Acharya

Awareness Jatha marks Mask Day

(Continued from page 1)

Mayor Tasneem, Dy. Mayor C. Sridhar, MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde, Addl. Commissioner Shashikumar, MCC Standing Committee on Health Chairman Gopi, Corporators B.V. Manjunath and M.V. Ramprasad, Health Officers Dr. Jayanth and Dr. Nagaraju and others were also present.

Speaking to media on the occasion, DC Abhiram G. Sankar said, "Following directions from the State Government, Mask Day was being celebrated by various Departments and institutions."

On COVID cases, he said "The positive case reported yesterday is a Bengaluru returnee who was a BMTC driver. He was under home quarantine and had fever. He is a resident of Haduvinalli in Nanjangud. After relaxation of lockdown rules, more cases are expected and we are taking all measures to handle that. So far, a total of 29 home quarantine violation cases have been reported in Mysuru district."

"PUC exam is on today and soon SSLC exams will begin. In this view, we have called a meeting of all the Departments including Education, Health and Police, tomorrow with regard to the safety measures to be in place during the conduct of exams," the DC said.

To a query on International Day of Yoga, he said that decision has not been taken yet about using helicopter to record the 'Virtual Terrace Yoga.' "As using helicopter would cost more and as we have drone facility, we are thinking about that and we are yet to decide," he added.

DDRC: District Disability Rehabilitation Centre (DDRC), Mysuru, in association with the Department of Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens and Indian Red Cross Society too observed Mask Day. All the staff of DDRC wore mask and took part in awareness jatha on using masks.

KSRTC RURAL DIVISION: DHO Dr. Venkatesh inaugurated the Jatha organised by KSRTC Rural Division at Suburban Bus Stand in city. On the occasion, masks were distributed to passengers. The Jatha, attended by KSRTC staff and drivers, passed through Irwin Road, Ashoka Road, Clock Tower, Chamaraja Circle, Hardinge Circle and concluded at Suburban Bus Stand. Dr. Venkatesh, speaking to media, said: "Mask usage not only prevents Corona but also contains the spread of TB. It is a good practice to use mask. Mysuru positive cases are being reported from those coming from outside and we are taking precautionary measures." KSRTC Mysuru Rural Divisional Controller R. Ashok Kumar, who spoke said: "Mask is very useful in containing Corona. We have given masks to all our staff and are also using sanitisers. Our staff are thermal screened every day and long route buses are provided with sufficient sanitisers and masks." Lashkar Inspector Suresh Kumar and others were present.

City Police Commissioner is seen flagging off the Mask Day rally of NR Police in front of Government Ayurveda College and Hospital Circle in city this morning. Picture right shows a staff dressed as 'Yama,' the God of Death in Hindu mythology, stopping a two-wheeler rider to make her wear safety mask and then proceed.

Devaraja Police taking out a Mask Day jatha from Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple premises.

CITY AND DISTRICT CENTRAL LIBRARY: Mayor Tasneem flagged off the Jatha organsied in front of the City Central Library near Ayurveda College Circle which was attended by the Library Department staff. The Jatha passed through Sayyaji Rao, K.R. Circle and concluded at Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple, Palace North Gate.

Library Deputy Director Dr. B. Manjunath, City Library Authority Member and Corporator Shanthakumari, District Library Authority Member Ramsesh, Corporator B.V. Manjunath and others were present.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: ***District Health and Family Welfare Department: The jatha held by the Health Department near Rajendranagar Arch Circle was flagged off by DHO Venkatesh. Health Department officials and ASHA activists, held banners on mask usage, took out jatha at Kurimande Circle and other areas. Masks were also distributed on the occasion.***

Javagal Srinath endorses 'Mask for Mysore'

The initiative of Youth for Seva aims to distribute one lakh reusable masks in Mysuru

Seen in the picture are Rajesh, Vibhaga Pracharak of RSS Mysuru, Harish Shenoy, Trustee Youth for Seva, Javagal Srinath, former cricketer, Rajesh Pai, Advocate and Satish Methri, Coordinator of Youth for Seva.

Mysuru, June 18 (BNR)- On occasion of Mask Day, former Indian ace bowler Javagal Srinath endorsed and appreciated 'Mask for Mysore,' an initiative of Youth for Seva.

As part of the initiative, which was launched by Pramoda Devi Wadiyar on May 11, volunteers of Youth for Seva are distributing one lakh cloth, washable and reusable masks in Mysuru.

Youth for Seva has reached out to most of the slums, construction workers, loaders, fruit and vegetable vendors, graveyard and cemetery staff, homeless people, urban centre for homeless, old age homes and industrial workers and educated them about right usage and disposal of the masks.

Delayed II PU English exam

(Continued from page 1)

Students relieved, happy: Sangeetha of Maharani's College, who wrote the exam at Maharaja PU College, said that the exam was easy as they had ample time to prepare. "We use to get our doubts cleared from teachers over phone and I am hoping to score 85 percent," she said.

Suchitra of the same college said that she hailed from a rural family in Udbur. "There is no Internet in my village and I really do not know the concept of online classes. If parents send me to a degree college after my PUC I will surely study," she added.

Rakshitha, a student from Maharani's College said that though it was a holiday she prepared well for the exam. "I had time to revise and re-revise," she said.

Mala, another student of Maharani's College said that the Department had taken enough precautions in view of the pandemic and there was no fear while writing the exams.

Meanwhile, exemption was given for the students or their family members who have tested positive for COVID-19 from appearing for the exam. There was no compulsion for students or parents who fear attending the examinations. They can take the exam during Supplementary exams and will be considered as fresh candidates.

VOICE OF THE READER

Consider street lights on priority: Plea to MCC

Sir,

Street lights in SBM Colony, Srirampura, are in poor shape as more than 100 street lights are not glowing for which light fittings are due to be replaced. The street lights in the Colony were fixed way back in 1993 and after several years, the fittings are worn out due to rusting on exposure to rains and sun's hot rays.

Whenever there is complaint of light not glowing from the residents, the MCC has been changing the tube lights promptly but in several cases, as the fittings are rusted and worn out, where they need to be replaced by new ones, no action has been taken and their numbers are increasing day by day.

The Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), which has to take initiative, expresses its helplessness for want of funds or planning to replace them by LED bulbs. Same state of affairs has been continuing for years together without any action by MCC despite several complaints from the residents. As street lights are very much essential for our safety, I request the MCC Commissioner to give top most priority to this serious civic problem and make immediate arrangements either to replace the worn out light fittings by new ones or provide LED bulbs throughout the layout without any further delay.

— K.V. Ramanath, Secretary,
Mysore Bank Colony Residents' Cultural & Welfare Association
Srirampura II Stage
16.6.2020

BMTC employee tests positive in Mysuru; 15 active cases

Primary contact of BMTC staff visits Nanjangud Rural Police Station; premises sanitised, barricaded

Mysuru, June 18 (MTY, RS & BCT)- One more person tested positive for COVID-19 on June 16 (but was reported on June 17), taking the total active positive in Mysuru to 15.

The victim is 35-year-old male patient (P) 7553. An employee of Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), he had travelled from Bengaluru to Hura village in Nanjangud. He had come to the village last week to see his wife who is staying at a house inside Kittur Rani Chennamma Hostel premises.

Three days back he developed fever and his throat swabs were sent to laboratory for tests. Later when the results came out, the BMTC employee tested positive. With the fresh case, the total (cumulative) cases in Mysuru has increased to 121. Of all, 106 patients have recovered and discharged from the hospital.

Meanwhile, a high alert was sounded in Nanjangud Rural Police Station following reports of a primary contact of P-7553 visiting the Station. As soon as the news spread, the Police Station staff were vacated from the building and the premises sanitised.

Interestingly, after sanitisation, barricades were put up at the entrance of the Station to prevent people from unnecessarily visiting the Station. Dy.SP Prabhakar Rao Shinde clarified to *Star of Mysore* that the COVID positive person had not visited the Police Station.

"Our inquiries pointed out that a person who had partied with the positive person (P-7553) two days back (a primary contact) had visited the Police Station. Though these are unconfirmed reports, we have taken enough precautions and have sanitised the entire Station," he said.

This particular patient — P-7553 — had visited many places in Hura village and had partied with his friends before falling ill. As soon as he tested positive, Health Department officials called him over phone to ascertain his location. He, however, did not reveal his location but he was spotted near Basaveshwara temple on Hullahalli Road. He was caught by the officials who traced his cell phone location. He was immediately shifted to the designated COVID-19 Hospital on KRS Road.

AAP District Working Committee reconstituted

Mysuru, June 18- The newly appointed Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), Mysuru District President, Malavika Gubbivani, has reconstituted the District Working Committee as follows:

Usha Sampathkumar has been appointed as Women's group in-charge. She has been associated with AAP since 2013 as a volunteer.

A graduate in English Literature and Education, she has worked as a teacher for several years. A social and a political activist, Usha hails from Bengaluru. She is the outreach director of "Avala Hejje," an enterprise founded to empower women.

Renukaprasad has been appointed as Coordinator of Outreach Programmes. He studied Business Management from University of Mysore and managed farm and coffee plantations, before joining a Bank. He has worked as legal assistant to a law firm for 2 years.

He joined Industrial Development Corporation and was actively involved in industrial promotion in Karnataka, site management and distribution of industrial raw materials to SSIs.

Usha *Renukaprasad* *Vidyaranya*

After resigning in 2012, he got involved in farmers issues and motivation of youth. A resident of Mysuru since 2012, he identifies himself as an aam aadmi.

G.R. Vidyaranya has been appointed as Media Coordinator. He is a Retired Marine Communication, Radar & Computer specialist, a certified RTI District Trainer and a Social Development Activist. He has worked with several NGOs teaching life skills and citizenship values to school and college students. He has been associated with AAP since its inception as a mentor, according to press release from Aam Aadmi Party Mysuru District President Malavika Gubbivani.

Youth goes missing from city

Mysuru, June 18 (KS)- A 29-year-old youth has gone missing from Nazarbad Police limits in city.

The missing youth is Deepak. He left his home on May 19 at about 7.45 pm, saying that he was going to his friend's house and has since gone missing, according to the complaint lodged by his parents. Those having any information about the missing youth may contact Nazarbad Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418308/305 or call Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339, according to a press release.

Supreme Court clears way for SSLC exam from June 25

New Delhi, June 18 (UNI)- The Supreme Court yesterday paved way for Class 10 SSLC Board examinations to be conducted in Karnataka as scheduled, from June 25 to July 4.

A Bench comprising Justices L. Nageswara Rao, Krishna Murari and S. Ravindra Bhat dismissed a plea challenging a Karnataka High Court Order, which had refused to intervene in the State Government's decision.

Appearing for the petitioner, Senior Advocate Jayna Kothari apprised the Court that around 8.48 lakh students would be taking the exam. The High Court, it was submitted, had failed to appreciate the high risk and impact to the health and lives of minor students, by allowing the same to be conducted.

Though the Government had come up with guidelines and a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), the petitioner argued that in the light of COVID-19 pandemic, the decision is in violation of minors' right to life.

Elaborating on their concerns, it was pointed out that there would be around 25-30 lakh people on the streets, including students, parents/guardians, staff etc., while making it to over 3,000 examination centres across the State. Thus, the petitioner urged for the examination to be cancelled and advocated for results to be declared on the basis of internal assessment.

On May 27, the Karnataka High Court had given a go-ahead to the decision of the State to conduct examinations from June 25 and opined that adequate measures must be in place to ensure the safety of students appearing for the same. It was satisfied with the Government notified guidelines and SOP to that effect.

The Apex Court upheld the Karnataka High Court's stand of being slow in interfering with academic matters. While dismissing the plea, it was observed that a constitutional court must try not to interfere in academic matters.

The other contention brought forth by the petitioner was regarding the Govt's decision to grant migrant children and those living in containment zones the option of appearing for Board examinations after a period of two months. The Court noted that there is the option of appearing on a later date. This, the Top Court was of the view, would allow examinations to be conducted after two months, if it was not possible for students to appear from June 25, on account of the petitioner's concerns.

SSLC Exams Helpline

Mysuru, June 18- Students writing SSLC examinations 2019-2020, which will be held between June 25 and July 4, can contact Office of the Block Education Officer (BEO) and district level Helpline numbers to know about transport facility and other exam-related queries.

Office of the Dy. Director, Department of Public Instruction

Mysuru taluk	0821-2490025 (Chethan Kumar)
H.D. Kote taluk	70198-66895 (Krishnamurthy) or 94818-13909 (Jairam)
Hunsur	80736-87805 (Kumaraswamy) or 97409-27585 (Hemanth Kumar)
K.R. Nagar	08223-263504 (Bharatesh)
North Zone Mysuru	Education Co-ordination BRP and CRP - 0821-2496323
South Zone Mysuru	99649-67554 (Manohar)
Mysuru	80733-89743 (Kumaraswamy) or 89715-44137 (Shivaraj)
Nanjangud	08221-225404 (Madhu)
Periyapatna	08223-274246 (Ganesh)
T. Narasipur	63612-91076 (Vishwanatha Reddy)

Decoding Mythology

Dr. Devdutt Pattanaik - Author, Speaker, Illustrator, Mythologist

The Love-God's Mother

Between the 5th and 10th century C.E., we find the development of Puranic literature. Many stories explained the relationships of Vishnu's many avatars. One story that merits attention is the story of Pradyumna, the son of Krishna and Rukmini. The story is told very differently in the Hindu tradition and in the Jain tradition.

In the Hindu narrative from Bhagavata Purana, we are told that soon after his birth, Pradyumna is abducted by a demon called Shambara, who throws him into the sea. He is swallowed by a fish. The fish is caught by fisherfolk and it finds its way into the kitchen of Shambara's Palace.

Shambara's wife, Mayawati, cuts the fish open and finds a little baby inside. She raises this child, and as the child grows up to be a handsome young man, she falls in love with him. The boy resists her advances, because he finds a relationship with his foster mother inappropriate. But he is unable to resist his attraction. He is then told that his feelings and the relationship are valid because Mayavati is Rati reborn and he, Pradyumna, is Kama reborn.

When Shiva opened his third eye and destroyed the Love-God, Kama, he promised Kama's consort Rati that Kama would be reborn in Vishnu's family. Pradyumna is Kama reborn and Mayavati is Rati reborn. So, Kama-Pradyumna marries Rati-Mayawati, despite the difference in age and the awkwardness of their relationship.

Pradyumna even kills his foster father Shambara and returns triumphant to Dwarka to meet Krishna and Rukmini. This is a very unusual tale, where there is an older woman marrying a younger boy, a foster son at that.

The Jain narratives from Harivamsapurana and Vasudevahindi, however, written in the same period, present the relation between Pradyumna and his foster mother in a very different light.

Here, great value is given to a series of rebirths. In a previous life, Pradyumna abducts a woman causing her husband great grief. The woman he abducted is born as Kanakamala/ Kanchanmala.

Kanchanmala's husband of that previous life is reborn as a demon called Dhumketu. Dhumketu abducts Rukmani's infant son, Pradyumna, and throws him into the sea. Pradyumna survives in the belly of a fish. Kanchanmala finds him. She uses magical power to transform him into a young man and, as is in the Hindu narrative, she expresses her desire to him. Here, Pradyumna resists his foster mother's advances, saying that it is inappropriate.

She tries to bribe him by giving him magical powers. While he receives the magical powers, he refuses to accept her offer. Angry, she accuses him of rape. So Kanchanmala's sons try to destroy Pradyumna. They throw Pradyumna into a cave, a firepit, into a lake, into a pond. Each time, Pradyumna encounters magical beings, like nagas, who are impressed by his beauty and his valour. They give him gifts in the form of jewels, clothes and weapons. Thus, the encounters transform him into a heroic being who returns home to meet his parents.

Thus, we find two different traditions approaching Pradyumna very differently. Today, of course, not much is known about Pradyumna. Our Victorian moorings prevent us from reading these awkward tales. We just know him today as a good son of Krishna, father of Aniruddha. He is eventually killed at Prabhas Teertha, as per the Mahabharata.

devdutt@devdutt.com

SKYWATCH

Partial Solar Eclipse on June 21

Sky Watching' is one of the most fascinating, appreciating and thrilling experience. Winter sky is the best time to watch the night sky, as it is very conducive for observing night sky. One of the most captivating astronomical occurrences in Astronomy is the observation of an 'eclipse.' Eclipse is the most pleasurable, extravagant and conspicuous astronomical spectacle in the sky.

Throughout the past, human beings must have stopped in their diurnal struggle to survive in order to stare in disbelief at the gradual disappearance and re-emergence of Sun. Through most of the recorded history, eclipses have been viewed as a supernatural manifestation, usually a pre-monition of some impending calamity or misfortune.

Visibility of Annular / Partial Solar Eclipse

Indians are really fortunate to witness the most astounding, anticipated and striking 'Annular/ Partial Solar Eclipse' on June 21, since it is visible from all prominent parts of India. The rare phenomenon of the annular/ partial solar eclipse, or the 'ring of fire' on June 21, 2020 would be clearly noticeable in all parts of India and the astronomy enthusiasts are all geared up to witness the marvel that happens seldom Though the solar eclipse happens in regular intervals, the annular / partial solar eclipse is a sporadic phenomenon, and it occurs when the Moon's apparent diameter is smaller than the Sun's, thus obscuring most of the Sun's light and make it appear like an annulus (ring).

On June 21, 'Annular Solar Eclipse' will be observable in the region covering Central African Republic, Congo, Ethiopia, Northern India, China and Sothern Pakistan. Apart from these places, partial solar eclipse will be discernable from a larger region of the world which covers most of Asia, Sothern India, Northeast Africa, Oceana and Western Australia. Few northern parts of India namely Chamoli, Kurukshetra, Sirsa, Dehra Dun, Haryana, Delhi and two other places will be really fortunate to see to annular solar eclipse, wherein percentage of obscuration will be about 93% to 99%.

From Mysuru, the type of eclipse is preferably partial, as we cannot completely notice obscurity. The annular phase of this solar eclipse is not visible from Mysuru, but it can be observed there as a partial solar eclipse. The Moon covers a large portion of the Sun, so this is a spectacular sight. The percentage of obscurity of moon at Mysuru is about 35%. A Pinhole Camera is the simplest way to view an eclipse, but the solar image will be inverted.

The complete details of Partial Eclipse of Sun at Mysuru are given below in Indian Standard Time (IST):

Astronomical Event (June 21): Annular Solar Eclipse

Eclipse begins: 9.15 am

Partial Eclipse begins: 10.10 am

Maximum or Greatest Phase of the Eclipse: 11.43 am

Percentage Obscuration of Sun by Moon: About 35%

Partial Eclipse ends: 1.26 pm

Total duration of the eclipse: 3h 16m

Magnitude: 0.345

Visibility in India: Annular / Partial

The solar eclipse from Mysuru will commence at 10.10 am and terminate by 1.26 pm. The greatest or maximum phase of the eclipse will eventuate at 11.43 am. The magnitude of the Annular eclipse of the Sun is 0.345. Remember that, Mysureans can witness about 34.5% of the eclipse and generally regarded as a partial solar eclipse rather than annular solar eclipse. The total duration of the Partial eclipse is 3 hours 16 minutes. The path width of the solar eclipse's shadow is 110 kilometers and will travel at a speed of 1.1 kilometers per second. During its over three hour trajectory, the annular eclipse is going to cover approximately 12,900 kilometers which is 0.34 per cent of the surface area of planet Earth.

About Annular Solar Eclipses

An annular eclipse occurs when the Sun and Moon are exactly in line with the Earth, but the apparent size of the Moon is smaller than that of the Sun. Hence the Sun appears as a very bright ring, or annulus, surrounding the dark disk of the Moon. Annular solar eclipse is completely different from total solar eclipse.

The sun will never be completely obscured by Moon so darkness or tenebrosity never descends on the surroundings. The name "annular" had its origin from a Latin word "annulus" meaning "ring". If the characteristic ring of fire is discernable from even from a location, the whole eclipse is regarded as an annular solar eclipse. Also, they can only be observed with the use of solar filters and only with the naked eye if they are very close to the horizon, and even then, great care must be taken.

Facts and Figures about Solar Eclipses

• June 21 is the summer solstice which marks the longest day and shortest night of the year.

• The longest total solar eclipse of the 21st century (2001 to 2100) took place on July 22, 2009, with duration of 6 minutes and 39 seconds.

• The longest annular eclipse of the 21st century happened on January 15, 2010. The annular eclipse of January 15, 2010, had duration of 11 minutes and 8 seconds.

• The next longest total solar eclipse will occur on July 16, 2186 (7 minutes and 29 seconds) and the longest annular eclipse on December 7, 2150 (12 minutes and 24 seconds).

• The next total solar eclipse will occur on December 14, 2020.

From Mysuru, the best viewing location is Chamundi Hill. Large telescopes or high magnifications are of little value for observing a lunar eclipse. It is always recommended using binoculars or a small low-power telescope, since they both allow the entire Moon to be viewed during the event. Next solar eclipse can be seen on December 14, 2020, but not from India. So, do not forget to witness the solar eclipse on June 21. Enjoy the rare celestial feast.

— Dr. S.A. Mohan Krishna
Amateur Astronomer

Kurubarahalli Survey No.4 & Alanahalli Survey No.41

Committed to resolve deadlock, clarifies MLA Ramdas again

Mysuru, June 18 (PM&BCT)- Krishnaraja MLA S.A. Ramdas has again clarified that he was trying his best to remove the B-Kharab classification from the lands coming under Kurubarahalli Survey No.4 and Alanahalli Survey Number 41 and come to the rescue of over 25,000 property owners who are tormented by the long-standing issue.

"Property owners of Siddhartha Layout, Alanahalli, J.C. Nagar, K.C. Layout and Income Tax Layout will be relieved as their properties will be removed from 'B-Kharab' (Government land) classification and a Government order will be passed soon and positively by the end of this month," the MLA said yesterday while speaking to reporters at Pathrakarthara Bhavan.

Over 205.09 acres of Survey No. 4, 105 acres of K.C. Layout, and 44.20 acres of J.C. Layout (354.29 acres) will be freed from B-Kharab classification and will be handed over to MUDA free of cost, the MLA said and these layouts are Government layouts and classifying them as Government land was a wrong move, he said.

Reacting to the Congress allegation, MLA Ramdas said, "Nowhere have I stated that the order has been passed. Since two years, despite former CM Siddharamaiah passing a Cabinet order, nothing had moved and no efforts were made to resolve the deadlock. Now things are moving in the right direction and I have just said that," Ramdas said, reacting to Congress Spokesperson M. Lakshman's statement that he (Ramdas) was spreading a bunch of lies.

"I am committed on the issue and I will provide relief to my voters who have made me an MLA. There is no connection between MUDA Layouts and the B-Kharab classification," he said.

'Don't stigmatise Coronavirus patients'

DC Abhiram Sankar unveils 60-feet artwork 'Sambhavami Yuge Yuge' at Rangayana

Mysuru, June 18 (MK)- Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar unveiled the 'Defeating Corona Artwork Series' titled 'Sambhavami Yuge Yuge' that chronicles the origin of COVID-19 and its global spread, at Rangayana premises in city yesterday. The artwork depicts the theme 'Kalinga Mardhana by Lord Krishna' likening it to the tackling of 'Coronavirus' by the Corona Warriors.

Speaking after unveiling the artwork and felicitating Corona Warriors, Abhiram Sankar said, "Nobody knows when this pandemic will end. All we can do is face the situation together bravely with awareness and compassion."

"We need to be compassionate towards the victims of Coronavirus. There have been reports of the infection spread again in China. Fear is not a solution. Instead, we need to take all precautionary measures about our personal safety," he said.

"There is a social stigma associated with infectious diseases. In earlier times, following outbreak of any pandemic, infected persons had to stay outside their villages. Even HIV and leprosy patients were discriminated against as well. Nobody used to talk to them. Now, Coronavirus positive patients are required to be home quarantined to prevent community transmission, but once they are cured and discharged, we should not attach the same stigma to them. What if any one of our own family members get infected? So be human and empathetic," he said.

Art is a strong medium to create awareness

"Art is a strong medium to create awareness about Corona. Art should also be used to create awareness about child marriage, robbery and other crimes. Misusing the situation of lockdown, child marriages are being conducted. Awareness is important in this regard as well. Theatre should be digitalised," he suggested.

Rangayana Director Addanda C. Cariappa, who spoke on the occasion, lauded the efforts of all Corona Warriors who are fighting the pandemic in the forefront.

Felicitation: Corona Warriors, including Pourakarmika Pallamma, Police Constable Suresh Babu, Community Health Officer Deepu, Shivaprasad, District COVID Hospital Medical Officer Dr. Madhukumar and Dr. Kavita of District Infectious Diseases Control Unit were felicitated.

Acting Vice-Chancellor of Music Varsity Prof. Nagesh V. Bettakote, District Health Survey Officer Dr. Shivaprasad, Joint Director of Rangayana V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy and others were present.

350 total infected in Mandya; 289 cured, 61 active cases

Mandya, June 18 (Nagaiah &BCT)- The Mumbai link continues to haunt Mandya where many COVID-19 positive cases are travelling from the neighbouring State.

Yesterday, six Mumbai returnees and a patient with Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) tested positive in Mandya taking the total positive cases to 350, a record in itself for Mysuru region.

All the Mumbai returnees have their roots in K.R. Pet and Pandavapura and were working in Maharashtra. They returned to their hometown as Mumbai is turning out to be a hotbed of Coronavirus. All the positive cases have been admitted to the designated COVID hospital (Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences). 289 patients have been discharged so far and there are 61 active cases.

In all, 13,107 tests have been conducted in Mandya so far and 12,290 have tested negative. Test results of 480 persons are awaited. 5,312 persons are under home quarantine and 480 are in institutional quarantine, said a press release from the Mandya District Administration.

Alleged professional rivalry: Youth stabbed to death

Complaint lodged against former employer, his wife, accomplices

Mysuru, June 18 (KS)- A 31-year-old youth has been stabbed to death over alleged professional rivalry in Vijayanagar 4th Stage here yesterday.

The deceased is Arshith, a native of Chikkamagalur, who was running Infinity Hair and Skin Solution, a hair grafting clinic at Vijayanagar 1st Stage. Arshith was found lying in a pool of blood at about 11 am at Vijayanagar 4th Stage and he breathed his last while being shifted to a hospital.

Arshith

According to the complaint lodged by Arshith's partner Goutham at Vijayanagar Police Station, he has accused former employer Rajaram, proprietor of Hair and Skin Factory at Vijayanagar 1st Stage, Rajaram's wife, his employees Rajath, Prashanth and four unidentified persons of murdering Arshith.

He stated in the Police complaint that he (Goutham), Arshith, Manasa and Manju, were working at Hair and Skin Factory, a hair grafting clinic of Rajaram couple and quit their jobs as the duo were allegedly making money by cheating people. Later they opened their own clinic 'Infinity Hair and Skin Solution' at Vijayanagar 1st Stage itself and began conducting business.

He further said that one Rajath, an employee of Rajaram, used to call them frequently over the phone and threaten of murdering them if they do not close down their business.

Goutham has also stated that Rajath had called their building owner Hemanna Gowda and had threatened him too besides accusing Rajaram and his wife of summoning Manju, the Manager of their clinic and threatening of murdering Arshith and Manju, if they did not close shop.

The complainant further stated that a few days ago, a false complaint was lodged against them (Arshith and others) through one Nandakumar, Rajaram's employee, at Bharathinagar Police Station in Bengaluru and they had been to the Police Station to give their statements.

Goutham stated in the Police complaint that yesterday morning, Arshith went out for a cup of tea but his scooter was found lying in front of his (Goutham) house with blood spattered on the ground. On enquiry, one Pramod Kumar told him that a person riding a Honda Activa scooter rammed into the scooter of Arshith and when he fell on the ground, two persons, who came on a Royal Enfield (Bullet) bike stabbed Arshith.

The injured was shifted to a private hospital in Vijayanagar 3rd Stage in an autorickshaw but the doctors declared Arshith dead.

Vijayanagar Police, who have registered a case under IPC Section 120(B), 302 read with 34, are investigating.

Experimental launch of 24X7 water supply to 2,485 houses tomorrow

Mysuru, June 18 (PM&BCT)- A project to supply pure drinking water to entire Mysuru 24X7 and 365 days is in the pipeline and an experimental project to supply tap water to 2,485 houses in Vishweshwaranagar will be launched on June 19 at 9 am, said MLA S.A. Ramdas.

Addressing a press conference at Pathrakarthara Bhavan yesterday, the Krishnaraja MLA said that when the BJP was in power previously, a project was launched to supply drinking water to entire Mysuru under NURM scheme in 2014. The project received Centre's approval and Rs. 214 crore was released.

Before that, in 2008-2009, another project was sanctioned to Mysuru under NURM to supply bulk water to Mysuru and the project was handed over to Jamshedpur Utilities and Services Company (JUSCO) a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tata Steel.

Contract to IL&FS: JUSCO had bagged a six-year performance-based water management contract for Mysuru. It was billed as one of the country's largest water supply projects in the public-private partnership model. JUSCO had entered into a tripartite agreement with MCC and KUWSDB.

However, the JUSCO project to supply water 24×7 across the city reached only a fraction of the city and later, the MCC cancelled the contract. The project was to supply water to 69 District Metering Area (DMA) in Mysuru but only 47 DMA was completed. "Again, in 2016, in the second phase of NURM project, IL&FS was given the contract of supplying drinking water on Feb. 26. March 2019 was fixed as the deadline for IL&FS to complete the project and provide water connection to 50,132 houses," Ramdas said.

"Of the 22 DMA, IL&FS has completed 11 DMA and the company has furnished records for the same. The project to supply tap water to 2,485 houses in Vishweshwaranagar has been completed by IL&FS and on an experimental basis 24X7 water will be supplied to those houses from June 19 (9 am) to 9 am on June 20," the MLA said and added that to continue the same project to entire Mysuru, plans have to be drawn up.

What went wrong with JUSCO project?

For the record, Mysuru has a population of more than 12 lakh and when JUSCO abandoned the project, company officials claimed that only 61,000 of 1,17,000 households in the city had been connected to the new system. And out of them, only 13,000 households are receiving water 24x7.

The first problem was with the scope of the work defined in the JUSCO project agreement. When the agreement was signed, the work was for laying a network of pipelines over 910 km with 1,17,000 connections. Later it was found that the length of the pipeline network that actually needs to be repaired and laid was 1,910 km with 1.74 lakh connections, way beyond the scope of the agreement. This discrepancy put a lot of challenges in the project execution and ultimately it was abandoned, JUSCO sources said.

When the JUSCO project was conceived, it was supposed to showcase how to fix water infrastructure and provide consumers piped supply 24x7 by enlisting private companies. But the well-intentioned civic infrastructure never really took off, dashing the hopes of Mysureans.

Late. Sri B. Madhava Shenoi
Kamakshi HOSPITALS
Late. Smt. Sulochana Bai
Kuvempunagar, Mysore
J.P.Nagar, Mysuru
A Unit of Bantval Sulochana Madhava Shenoi Trust (R)
Late. Sri Sri Vishwesha Theertha Swamiji
Jagadguru Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Mahaswamiji
Sri Sri Ganapathi Sachidananda Swamiji
"Service to Humanity is Service to God"
With this sole ideal in mind the well known Philanthropists of Mysuru (Late) Sri. B. Madhava Shenoy's sons formed a charitable Trust in the name of their revered parents and laid the foundation for Kamakshi Hospital, Kuvempu Nagar, Mysuru. This hospital has been serving the needy since the last 46 years relentlessly towards providing best and standard medical care to the poor and the middle class in particular since April 1973 at affordable costs. Having earned the trust and faith of the citizens of Mysuru, with the intention of providing similar service to the public and residents of J. P. Nagar area, Kamakshi Hospital Unit- II started functioning from 17-06-2019 and has been providing service to the public successfully for the past one year. Hospital has taken active part in control of all Govt. programmes meant for public health promotion, particularly with respect to Covid-19 control.
It is time, on this occasion of this First Anniversary to remember the service and co-operation of many respectable and service minded dignitaries for their invaluable service to the good cause. Hospital has the fortune of being blessed by Late. Sri Pejawar Mutt Seer Vishweshwara Theertha Swamiji, Sri. Sri. Dekshikendra Swamiji of Suttur Mutt and Sri. Sri. Ganapathi Sachidananda Swamiji of Mysuru.
Sri M. Mahesh Shenoy
Managing Trustee
Dr. K R. Kamath
Administrator
We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all Corona Warriors
Sri S.T. Somashekhar
District Incharge Minister
Sri Prathap Simha
MP
Sri S.A.Ramdas
MLA, K.R. Constituency
Sri L.Nagendra
MLA, Chamaraja Constituency
Sri G.T. Devegowda
MLA, Chamundeshwari Constituency
Sri Tanveer Sait
MLA, N.R. Constituency
Smt. Tasneem
Mayor of Mysuru
Sri Sa Ra Mahesh
MLA, K.R. Nagara Constituency
Sri Yathindra Siddaramaiah
MLA, Varuna Constituency
Sri Vasu
Ex- MLA, Chamaraja Constituency
Sri M.K.Somashekhar
Ex- MLA, K.R. Constituency
Sri Abhiram G. Shankar
DC, Mysuru
Dr. Chandragupta
Commissioner, Mysuru City Police
Sri C.B. Rishyanth
Superintendent of Police Mysuru District
Sri A.N.Prakash Gowda
DCP, Mysuru City Police
Sri Gurudatta Hegde
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Pourakarmikas
Let us all join hands to fight against Covid-19

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